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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Reissue Patent Application:

Applicant : Todd A. Merritt
Reissue Serial No. : 10/006,785
Filed : November 9, 2001
Attorney Docket No. : 500345.02
Title : OUTPUT BUFFER HAVING INHERENTLY PRECISE DATA MASKING

Corresponding Issued U.S. Patent:

Patent No. : 5,983,314
Issued : November 9, 1999
Serial No. : 08/898,177
Filed : July 22, 1997
Examiner : Denise Tran
Art Unit : 2752

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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REISSUE DECLARATION

Sir:

As below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below.

I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor of the innovative subject matter described and claimed in the application for reissue of U.S. Patent No. 5,983,314, which is entitled "OUTPUT BUFFER HAVING INHERENTLY PRECISE DATA MASKING."

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified U.S. reissue patent application, INCLUDING BOTH THE ORIGINAL CLAIMS AND THE NEW CLAIMS PRESENTED IN THE PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FILED ON NOVEMBER 9, 2001.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulation, § 1.56(a).

I believe the above-identified original patent 5,983,314 to be partly inoperative, by reason of the patentee claiming less than I had a right to claim. For example, claim 1 of the original patent claims the data coder with more specificity than is required by the prior art since it specifies that the data coder includes a "data mask register" and a "data output register." This error and all other errors being corrected in this reissue application to date arose without any deceptive intention on our part.

Accordingly, the Preliminary Amendment filed on November 9, 2001, presents additional independent apparatus claims that are the error noted above. These independent claims were newly drafted to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. The Preliminary Amendment also presented additional dependent claims and some method claims. I believe that my invention is at least as broad as these claims.

I do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever known or used in the United States of America before my invention thereof.

I do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof.

I do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever patented or described in any printed publication in any country more than one year prior to the filing date of the original U.S. application.

I do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to the filing date of the original U.S. application.

I hereby declare that all statements made of my knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and may also jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Todd A. Merritt
Inventor: Todd A. Merritt

1-21-03
Date

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Citizenship: United States

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